

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Please cancel claims 13 to 19 without prejudice.

There is attached an annotated copy of claim 1 as amended with new claims 20 to 25 and a clean copy of claim 1 as amended with new claims 20 to 25.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 12 and 20 to 25 are in the case.

The claims have been amended so that they are in the same form as in the parent application at the time of the advisory action of October 16, 2001.

The amendment which Applicant made in the parent application in claim 1 was indicated as raising new issues.

It is requested that claims 1 to 12 and 20 to 25 now be considered.

It is requested that the submissions made with respect to the prior art references in the submissions in response to the Office Action of February 20, 2001 and July 30, 2001 in the parent application be incorporated herein by reference and that particular consideration be given to the submission in response to the Office Action of July 30, 2001 in the parent application, with respect to how the claims distinguish over the cited art.

The first paragraph of the specification has been amended to show the continuation status.

FOIA b 7 - DATED 09/10/01

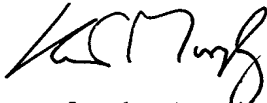
The Assistant Commissioner for Patents

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance and early and favorable action would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

X. HUA et al

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Murphy".

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Date: November 26, 2001

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